

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

MAYITO GUZMAN,

No. C 12-4196 WHA (PR)

Petitioner,

**ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE;  
GRANTING APPLICATION TO  
PROCEED IN FORMA PAUPERIS**

v.

R. J. RACKLEY,

(Docket Nos. 2, 4)

Respondent.

**INTRODUCTION**

Petitioner, a California prisoner proceeding pro se, filed a petition for a writ of habeas corpus pursuant to 28 U.S.C. 2254. His application for leave to proceed in forma pauperis is granted and respondent is ordered to show cause why the petition should not be granted based on petitioner's cognizable claims.

**STATEMENT**

In 2011, petitioner was convicted in Santa Clara County Superior Court after a jury found him guilty of second-degree robbery, and his sentence was enhanced based on two prior convictions. On direct review, the California Court of Appeal affirmed the conviction and sentence, and the California Supreme Court denied a petition for review.

**ANALYSIS**

**A. STANDARD OF REVIEW**

This court may entertain a petition for writ of habeas corpus "in behalf of a person in custody pursuant to the judgment of a State court only on the ground that he is in custody in

violation of the Constitution or laws or treaties of the United States." 28 U.S.C. 2254(a); *Rose v. Hodges*, 423 U.S. 19, 21 (1975). Habeas corpus petitions must meet heightened pleading requirements. *McFarland v. Scott*, 512 U.S. 849, 856 (1994). An application for a federal writ of habeas corpus filed by a prisoner who is in state custody pursuant to a judgment of a state court must "specify all the grounds for relief which are available to the petitioner ... and shall set forth in summary form the facts supporting each of the grounds thus specified." Rule 2(c) of the Rules Governing Section 2254 Cases, 28 U.S.C. foll. 2254. "[N]otice' pleading is not sufficient, for the petition is expected to state facts that point to a 'real possibility of constitutional error.'" Rule 4 Advisory Committee Notes (quoting *Aubut v. Maine*, 431 F.2d 688, 689 (1st Cir. 1970)).

#### **B. LEGAL CLAIMS**

Petitioner makes the following three claims in his petition: (1) that the trial court failed to instruct the jury on assault and battery as a lesser-included offense; (2) that trial counsel was ineffective in failing to request a limiting instruction; and (3) that trial counsel was ineffective in failing to object to prosecutorial misconduct.

The claims are, when liberally construed, cognizable, and an order to show cause will issue.

#### **CONCLUSION**

In light of the foregoing,

1. The clerk shall mail a copy of this order and the petition with all attachments to the respondent and the respondent's attorney, the Attorney General of the State of California. The clerk shall also serve a copy of this order on the petitioner.

2. Respondent shall file with the court and serve on petitioner, within **84 days** of the issuance of this order, an answer conforming in all respects to Rule 5 of the Rules Governing Section 2254 Cases, showing cause why a writ of habeas corpus should not be granted based on the claims found cognizable herein. Respondent shall file with the answer and serve on petitioner a copy of all portions of the state trial record that have been transcribed previously and that are relevant to a determination of the issues presented by the petition.

1 If petitioner wishes to respond to the answer, he shall do so by filing a traverse with the  
2 court and serving it on respondent within **28 days** of the date the answer is filed.


3 3. Respondent may file, within **84 days**, a motion to dismiss on procedural grounds in  
4 lieu of an answer, as set forth in the Advisory Committee Notes to Rule 4 of the Rules  
5 Governing Section 2254 Cases. If respondent files such a motion, petitioner shall file with the  
6 court and serve on respondent an opposition or statement of non-opposition within **28 days** of  
7 the date the motion is filed, and respondent shall file with the court and serve on petitioner a  
8 reply within **14 days** of the date any opposition is filed.

9 4. Petitioner is reminded that all communications with the court must be served on  
10 respondent by mailing a true copy of the document to respondent's counsel. Petitioner must  
11 keep the court informed of any change of address and must comply with the court's orders in a  
12 timely fashion. Failure to do so may result in the dismissal of this action for failure to prosecute  
13 pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 41(b). *See Martinez v. Johnson*, 104 F.3d 769, 772  
14 (5th Cir. 1997) (Rule 41(b) applicable in habeas cases).

15 5. Petitioner's application to proceed in forma pauperis (dkt. 2 and 4) is **GRANTED**.

16 **IT IS SO ORDERED.**

17 Dated: October 16, 2012.

18   
19 \_\_\_\_\_  
20 WILLIAM ALSUP  
21 UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26